

New York State Dept. of Public Service
Case Number 21-02623
6/01/22

Dear Ms Philips

I am writing in support of MarieAnn Cherry on behalf of the UK charity LightAware (www.lightaware.org).

Lighting technology has changed dramatically in recent years with the development of modern fluorescent and LED lights, and the ban on incandescent light bulbs. Many people experience pain and ill health when exposed to these newer forms of lighting, with symptoms including eye pain, headaches and migraines, skin rashes, burning, dizziness, nausea and photosensitive epilepsy.

The spread of new lighting has resulted in the social exclusion of light-sensitive people, who are unable to access many places of employment, recreation, education and health. This problem is exacerbated by a lack of awareness and information.

A particular problem is the introduction of LED street lighting without proper safeguards to protect those people who are made ill by it. I attach a copy of a report produced by LightAware about the introduction of LED street lighting in the UK. It includes case studies setting out how a number of people have been affected by the introduction of this lighting. The same lessons will no doubt apply in the US. In addition, I attach a short paper about the effects of LED on light disabled people that we initially produced for the UK Government.

Because this technology is being introduced so quickly, without proper research, its adverse effects on individuals such as MarieAnne have only recently come to light.

I hope that you look upon her case with kindness and compassion.

Yours sincerely
Dr John Lincoln
Trustee